

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

**SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
2008-09 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING**

Outcome 8

DEEWR Question No. EW009_09

Senator Watson provided in writing.

Question

Impact of funding cuts on ABS Labour Force Survey

Has any analysis been conducted on the impact of the funding cuts to the ABS as a result of the 2008-09 Budget which will reduce the Labour Force Survey sample size by 24%.

Answer

The Department is aware that the cut to the Labour Force Survey sample size will result in an increase in the standard errors on the estimates, particularly for data disaggregated at the finer level of detail. However, DEEWR has not undertaken any analysis of the magnitude of the impact on standard errors. The question should be forwarded to the ABS for consideration.